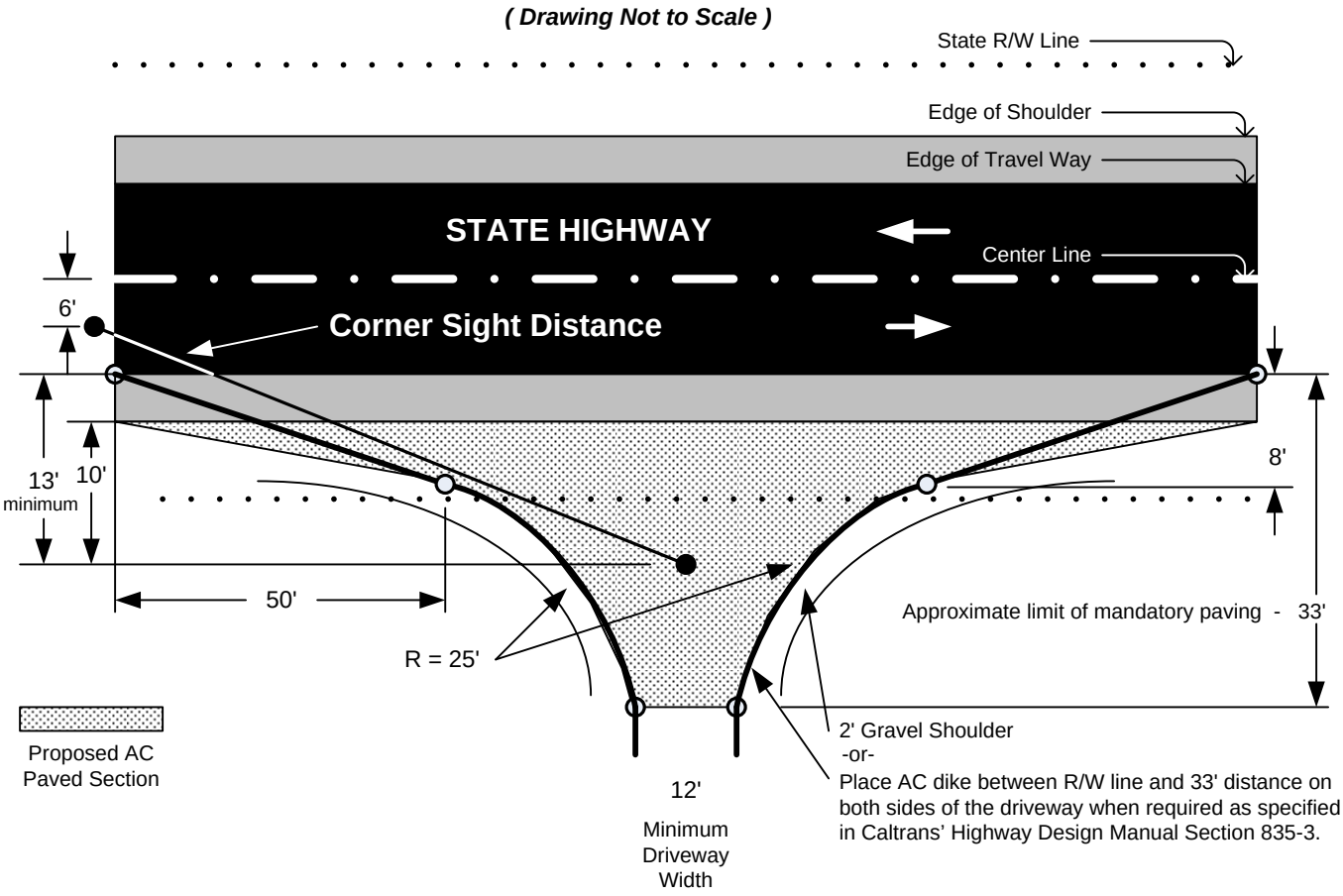
Road Connections and Driveways

Standard Private and Commercial Driveway Approach

For Rural Areas With Unimproved Frontage On Conventional State Highways



Design Posted Speed (mph)	Corner Sight Distance (feet)
30	330
35	385
40	440
45	495
50	550
55	605
60	660
65	715
70	770

NOTES:

For driveways constructed with a fill slope of 4:1 or less and not requiring special drainage design, a 2' AB shoulder should be placed on each side.

Driveway approach within 20' of the traveled way shall have a grade not greater than 5%, except that on super-elevated curves, the pavement slope shall be continued to the edge of the shoulder.

Culvert pipe under the driveway approach might be required to carry the State highway gutter flow.

Paved portion of the driveway shall be surfaced not less than:

- Private: 3" AC over 6" AB
- Commercial 4" AC over 6" AB

REV. 04/07

Worker safety should be considered when determining vertical falsework clearance. Requests for approval of temporary vertical clearances less than 15 feet should discuss the impact on worker safety.

Temporary horizontal clearances less than shown in Table 204.8 or temporary vertical clearances less than 15 feet should be noted in the PS&E Transmittal Report.

To establish the grade of a structure to be constructed with a falsework opening, allowance must be made for the depth of the falsework. The minimum depths required for various widths of traffic opening are shown in Table 204.8.

Where vertical clearances, either temporary or permanent are critical, the District and the DOS should work in close conjunction during the early design stage when the preliminary grades, structure depths, and falsework depths can be adjusted without incurring major design changes.

Where the vertical falsework clearance is less than 15 feet, advance warning devices are to be specified or shown on the plans. Such devices may consist of flashing lights, overhead signs, over-height detectors, or a combination of these or other devices.

Warning signs on the cross road or in advance of the previous off-ramp may be required for overheight permit loads. Check with the Regional Permit Manager.

After establishing the opening requirements, a field review of the bridge site should be made by the District designer to ensure that existing facilities (drainage, other bridges, or road-ways) will not conflict with the falsework.

The placement and removal of falsework requires special consideration. During these operations, traffic should either be stopped for short intervals or diverted away from the span where the placement or removal operations are being performed. The method of traffic handling during these operations is to be included in the Special Provisions.

Topic 205 - Road Connections and Driveways

205.1 Access Openings on Expressways

Access openings are used only on expressways. The term access opening applies to openings through the right of way line which serve abutting land ownerships whose remaining access rights have been acquired by the State.

(1) Criteria for Location. Access openings should not be spaced closer than one-half mile to an adjacent public road intersection or to another private access opening that is wider than 30 feet. When several access openings are closely spaced, a frontage road should be considered (see Index 104.3). To discourage wrong-way movements, access openings should be located directly opposite, or at least 300 feet from a median opening.

Sight distance equivalent to that required for public road intersections shall be provided (see Index 405.1).

(2) Width. The normal access opening width should be 30 feet. A greater width may result in large savings in right of way costs in some instances, but should be considered with caution because of the possibility that public use might develop. Conversion of a private opening into a public road connection requires the consent of the CTC, which cannot be committed in advance (see the Project Development Procedures Manual).

(3) Recessed Access Openings. Recessed access openings, as shown on Figure 205.1, are desirable at all points where private access is permitted and should be provided whenever they can be obtained without requiring alterations to existing adjacent improvements. When recessed openings are required, the opening should be located a minimum distance of 75 feet from the nearest edge of the traveled way.

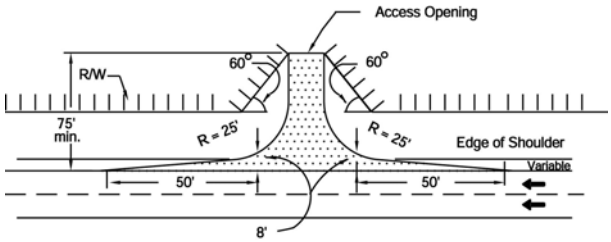
(4) Joint Openings. A joint access opening serving two or more parcels of land is desirable whenever feasible. If the property

line is not normal to the right of way line, care should be taken in designing the joint opening so that both owners are adequately served.

(5) Surfacing. All points of private access should be surfaced with adequate width and depth of pavement to serve the anticipated traffic. The surfacing should extend from the edge of the traveled way to the right of way line.

Figure 205.1

Access Openings on Expressways



RECESSED OPENING

NOTES:

- By widening the expressway shoulder, deceleration lanes may be provided where justified.
- This detail, without the recess, may be used on conventional highways.

205.2 Private Road Connections

The minimum private road connection design is shown on Figure 205.1. Sight distance requirements for the minimum private road connection are shown on Figure 405.7 (see Index 405.1).

205.3 Urban Driveways

These instructions apply to the design of driveways to serve property abutting on State highways in cities or where urban type development is encountered.

Details for driveway construction are shown on the Standard Plans. For corner sight distance, see Index 405.1(2)(d).

(1) Correlation with Local Standards. Where there is a local requirement regulating driveway construction, the higher standard will normally govern.

(2) Driveway Width. The width of driveways for both residential and commercial usage is measured at the throat, exclusive of any flares. ("W" as shown in Standard Plan A87A).

(3) Residential Driveways. The width of single residential driveways should be 12 feet minimum and 20 feet maximum. The width of a double residential driveway such as used for multiple dwellings should be 20 feet minimum and 30 feet maximum. The width selected should be based on an analysis of the anticipated volume, type and speed of traffic, location of buildings and garages, width of street, etc.

(4) Commercial Driveways. Commercial driveways should be limited to the following maximum widths:

(a) When the driveway is used for one-way traffic, the maximum width should be 25 feet. If the driveway serves a large parcel, where large volumes of vehicles or large vehicles are expected, the entrance maximum width should be 40 feet and the exit maximum width should be 35 feet.

(b) When the driveway is used for two-way traffic, the maximum width should be 35 feet. If the driveway serves a large parcel, where large volumes of vehicles or large vehicles are expected, then the maximum width should be 45 feet.

(c) When only one driveway serves a given property, in no case should the width of the driveway including the side slope distances exceed the property frontage.

(d) When more than one driveway is to serve a given property, the total width of all driveways should not exceed 70 percent of the frontage where such a frontage is 100 feet or less. Where the frontage is more than 100 feet, the total driveway width should not exceed 60 percent of the frontage. In either case, the width of the

individual driveway should not exceed those given in the preceding paragraphs. Where more than one driveway is necessary to serve any one property, not less than 20 feet of full height curb should be provided between driveways. This distance between driveways also applies to projects where curbs and gutters are not to be placed.

(e) Certain urban commercial driveways may need to accommodate the maximum legal vehicle. The width will be determined by the use of truck turn templates.

(5) Surfacing. Where curbs, gutters, and sidewalks are to be placed, driveways should be constructed of portland cement concrete. Where only curbs and gutters are to be placed and pedestrian traffic or adjacent improvements do not warrant concrete driveway construction, the driveway may be paved with the same materials used for existing surfacing on the property to be served.

(6) Pedestrian and Disabled Persons Access. Where sidewalks traverse driveways, accessibility regulations require that a relatively level (2 percent max. cross fall) path, at least 4 feet wide, is provided. Provision of this feature, as indicated in the Standard Plans, may require the acquisition of a construction easement or additional right of way. Assessment of these needs must be performed early enough in the design to allow time for acquiring any necessary permits or right of way. Additionally, designers should consider the following:

- Where restricted parking zones have been established (either blue or white painted zones) adjacent to driveways, but no reasonably close ramp access to the sidewalk exists, consideration should be given to reducing the maximum slope of the driveway from 10 percent to 8.33 percent to provide sidewalk access to the disabled.
- In many cases providing the pathway along the back of the driveway will lower the elevation at the back of the sidewalk. Depending on grades behind the sidewalk the potential may exist for roadway generated runoff to enter private property. The need for features such as low berms within the construction easement, or installation of catch basins upstream of the driveway should be determined.

When pedestrian activity is neither present, nor expected to be present within the reasonable future, the designer may develop driveway details that eliminate the flatter portion along the back edge in lieu of using the Standard Plans for driveways. Refer to Topic 105 for additional information related to pedestrian facilities.

205.4 Driveways on Frontage Roads and in Rural Areas

On frontage roads and in rural areas where the maximum legal vehicle must be accommodated, standard truck-turn templates should be used to determine driveway widths where the curb or edge of traveled way is so close to the right of way line that a usable connection cannot be provided within the standard limits.

Where county or city regulations differ from the State's, it may be desirable to follow their regulations, particularly where jurisdiction of the frontage road will ultimately be in their hands.

Details for driveway construction are shown on the Standard Plans. For corner sight distance, see Index 405.1(2)(c).

205.5 Financial Responsibility

Reconstructing or relocating any access openings, private road connections, or driveways required by revisions to the State highway facility should be done at State expense by the State or its agents. Reconstruction or relocation requested by others should be paid for by the requesting party.

404.3 Turning Templates

(1) General. The truck-turn template is a design aid for locating the wheel paths of large vehicles as they turn through at-grade intersections. Consideration should be given to the overhang of the truck, where the body of the truck slightly extends (approximately 2 feet) beyond the wheel path. The template is useful for determining corner radii, for positioning island noses, and for establishing clearance to bridge piers, signal poles, and other hardware at intersections. Templates can help determine the width of a channeled separate turning lane. Topic 407 illustrates scaled turning templates for the various design vehicles and turning radii.

(2) STAA Truck. The STAA truck-turn templates should be used in the design of all new interchanges and intersections on the National Network and on routes leading from the National Network to designated service and terminal routes. On rehabilitation projects they should be used at interchanges and intersections proposed as service or terminal access routes. In some cases, factors such as cost, right of way, environmental issues, local agency desires, and the type of community being served may limit the use of the STAA templates. In those cases, other appropriate templates should be used.

The minimum practical turning radius is 50 feet. However, the 60-foot radius develops less swept width and may have an advantage. The 60-foot radius should be used in most situations, but the 50-foot radius is acceptable in restricted situations.

(3) California Truck. The California truck-turn template should be used in the design of highways not on the National Network. The minimum practical turning radius is 50 feet.

(4) Bus. At intersections where truck volumes are light or where the predominate truck traffic consists of mostly 3-axle and 4-axle units, the bus turning template may be used. Its wheel paths sweep a greater width than 3-axle delivery trucks and the smaller buses such as school buses, but a slightly lesser width than a 4-axle truck.

Topic 405 - Intersection Design Standards

405.1 Sight Distance

(1) Stopping Sight Distance. See Index 201.1 for minimum stopping sight distance requirements.

(2) *Corner Sight Distance*.

(a) General--At unsignalized intersections a substantially clear line of sight should be maintained between the driver of a vehicle waiting at the crossroad and the driver of an approaching vehicle.

Adequate time must be provided for the waiting vehicle to either cross all lanes of through traffic, cross the near lanes and turn left, or turn right, without requiring through traffic to radically alter their speed.

The values given in Table 405.1A provide 7-1/2 seconds for the driver on the crossroad to complete the necessary maneuver while the approaching vehicle travels at the assumed design speed of the main highway. The 7-1/2 second criterion is normally applied to all lanes of through traffic in order to cover all possible maneuvers by the vehicle at the crossroad. However, by providing the standard corner sight distance to the lane nearest to and farthest from the waiting vehicle, adequate time should be obtained to make the necessary movement. On multilane highways a 7-1/2 second criterion for the outside lane, in both directions of travel, normally will provide increased sight distance to the inside lanes. Consideration should be given to increasing these values on downgrades steeper than 3 percent and longer than 1 mile (see Index 201.3), where there are high truck volumes on the crossroad, or where the skew of the intersection substantially increases the distance traveled by the crossing vehicle.

In determining corner sight distance, a set back distance for the vehicle waiting at the crossroad must be assumed. **Set back for the driver on the crossroad shall be a minimum of 10 feet plus the shoulder width of the major road but not less than 13 feet.** Corner sight distance is to be measured from a 3.5-foot height at the location of the driver on the minor road to a 4.25-foot object height in the center of the approaching lane of the major road. If the major road has a median barrier, a 2-foot object height should be used to determine the median barrier set back.

In some cases the cost to obtain 7-1/2 seconds of corner sight distances may be excessive. High costs may be attributable to right of way acquisition, building removal, extensive excavation, or unmitigable environmental impacts. In such cases a lesser value of corner sight distance, as described under the following headings, may be used.

(b) Public Road Intersections (Refer to Topic 205)--At unsignalized public road intersections (see Index 405.7) corner sight distance values given in Table 405.1A should be provided.

At signalized intersections the values for corner sight distances given in Table 405.1A should also be applied whenever possible. Even though traffic flows are designed to move at separate times, unanticipated vehicle conflicts can occur due to violation of signal, right turns on red, malfunction of the signal, or use of flashing red/yellow mode.

Where restrictive conditions exist, similar to those listed in Index 405.1(2)(a), the minimum value for corner sight distance at both signalized and unsignalized intersections shall be equal to the stopping sight distance as given in Table 201.1, measured as previously described.

(c) Private Road Intersections (Refer to Index 205.2) and Rural Driveways (Refer to Index 205.4)--**The minimum corner sight distance shall be equal to the stopping sight distance as given in Table 201.1, measured as previously described.**

(d) Urban Driveways (Refer to Index 205.3)--Corner sight distance requirements as described above are not applied to urban driveways.

(3) Decision Sight Distance. At intersections where the State route turns or crosses another State route, the decision sight distance values given in Table 201.7 should be used. In computing and measuring decision sight distance, the 3.5-foot eye height and the 0.5-foot object height should be used, the object being located on the side of the intersection nearest the approaching driver.

The application of the various sight distance requirements for the different types of intersections is summarized in Table 405.1B.

(4) Acceleration Lanes for Turning Moves onto State Highways. At rural intersections, with stop control on the local cross road, acceleration lanes for left and right turns onto the State facility should be considered. At a minimum, the following features should be evaluated for both the major highway and the cross road:

- divided versus undivided
- number of lanes
- design speed
- gradient
- lane, shoulder and median width
- traffic volume and composition
- turning volumes
- horizontal curve radii
- sight distance
- proximity of adjacent intersections
- types of adjacent intersections

For additional information and guidance, refer to AASHTO, A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, the Headquarters Traffic Liaison and the Design Coordinator.

Table 405.1A
Corner Sight Distance
(7-1/2 Second Criteria)

Design Speed (mph)	Corner Sight Distance (ft)
25	275
30	330
35	385
40	440
45	495
50	550
55	605
60	660
65	715
70	770

Table 405.1B
Application of Sight Distance Requirements

Intersection Types	Sight Distance		
	Stopping	Corner	Decision
Private Roads	X	X(1)	
Public Streets and Roads	X	X	
Signalized Intersections	X	(2)	
State Route Intersections & Route Direction Changes, with or without Signals	X	X	X

(1) Using stopping sight distance between an eye height of 3.5 ft and an object height of 4.25 ft. See Index 405.1(2)(a) for setback requirements.

(2) Apply corner sight distance requirements at signalized intersections whenever possible due to unanticipated violations of the signals or malfunctions of the signals. See Index 405.1(2)(b).

405.2 Left-turn Channelization

(1) General. The purpose of a left-turn lane is to expedite the movement of through traffic, control the movement of turning traffic, increase the capacity of the intersection, and improve safety characteristics.

The District Traffic Branch normally establishes the need for left-turn lanes. See "Guidelines for Reconstruction of Intersections," August 1985, published by the California Division of Transportation Operations.

(2) Design Elements.

(a) Lane Width -- **The lane width for both single and double left-turn lanes on State highways shall be 12 feet.** Under certain circumstances (listed below), left-turn lane widths of 11 feet or as narrow as 10 feet may be used on RRR or other projects on existing State highways and on roads or streets under other jurisdictions when supported by an approved design exception pursuant to Index 82.2. When considering lane width reductions adjacent to curbed medians, refer to Index 303.5 for guidance on effective roadway width; which may vary depending on drivers' lateral positioning and shy distance from raised curbs.

- On high speed rural highways or moderate speed suburban highways where width is restricted, the minimum width of single or dual left-turn lanes may be reduced to 11 feet.
- In severely constrained situations on low to moderate speed urban highways where large trucks are not expected, the minimum width of single left-turn lanes may be reduced to 10 feet. When double left-turn lanes are warranted under these same circumstances the width of each lane shall be no less than 11 feet. This added width is needed to assure adequate clearance between turning vehicles.